And whereas other vnlearned and euyll disposed persones, haue not sticked to instille and whisper into mennes eares, and to perswade abrode, euyll and perillous opinions, against Goddes lawe, and the good order of the realme: some teachyng that a manne maie forsake his wife, and marry another, his first wife yet liuyng, and likewyse that the wife maie do to the husbande. Other, that a man maie haue twoo wifes, or mo at once, and that these thynges bee prohibited, not by Goddes lawe, but by the Bisshopp of Romes lawe: So that by suche euill and phantasticall opinions, some hath not been afrayed in deede, to mary and kepe twoo wyfes, The whiche opinions, the kynges maiestie, as a moste Christian Prince, by thaduise aforesayed, not alowyng as Godly, and Christian, or conuenient to be spred abrode, or maintayned in the realme: straightly chargeth and commaundeth, all Archebisshoppes and Bisshoppes, and other whiche hath spirituall iurisdictions within the realme, to procede againste all suche as hath, or hereafter shall mary, or kepe, twoo wyfes at once, (whereof the firste is his lawfull wife) or shall put awaye his wife, and mary another, and to punisshe suche offenders, accordyng to the Ecclesiasticall lawes, with graue and seuere punishement, to feare thē with others, whiche, els would fall to suche insoent and vnlawfull actes.

And that all his highnes officers, and louyng subiectes, who hath charge or zeale thereto, shall detecte all suche offendours, to thesaied Archebisshoppes and Bishoppes, and others that exercyseth spirituall iurisdiction, and ayde thesame, to the punishyng of suche euyl doers, accordyng to the order of the lawe, in those cases. And if so be, thesaied Archebisshoppes, Bisshoppes, or other who hath the exercise of spirituall iurisdictions, be slacke and negligent, in the execution of thesaied procesſe, and punishyng of suche euill doers, as is before rehersed: That then the iustices of Peace, in euery shire, or any other his maiesties louyng subiectes, shall declare and signifye suche offendours and misdoers, to the kynges highnes counsaill, by their letters, that his highnes by thaduise aforesaid, might se a conuenient redresse made, of suche misorder, and loke more straightly vpō tharchebishoppes and Bishoppes, whiche doth not execute their duelies in this behalfe, accordyng to the trust committed vnto theim.

God saue the Kyng.

Excusum Londini, in ædibus Richardi Grafton Regij Impressoris.

Cum priuilegio ad imprimendum solum.